

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : E. Prats  
 M. SIEIJN et al :  
 Serial No.: 402,604 : Group: 1651  
 Filed: October 22, 1999 :  
 For: ISOLATION...BIOMASS :

600 Third Avenue  
 New York N.Y. 10016  
 April 24, 2001

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of February 2, 2001, please  
 amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add as the last page of the application the Abstract of  
 the Disclosure submitted herewith on a separate sheet of paper.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (amended). A process for the isolation of crystalline  
 carotenoid compound from microbial biomass comprising disrupting  
 the microbial cell walls, separating cellular debris from the  
 carotenoid-containing residue, washing one member of the group  
 consisting of the microbial biomass, the disrupted cell mass and  
 the carotenoid-containing <sup>residue</sup> with a solvent to remove lipid,  
 suspending the obtained carotenoid crystals in water to float the  
 crystals, <sup>and remove biomass debris</sup> recovering the crystals and, optionally, further  
 purifying the crystals.

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